

HISTORIC QUOTATION --- HOT STUFF [June 7](#)



502 CAPTION: Frank Lewis, seated at a table, holding a copy of one of his crosstiks.

HISTORIC QUOTATION: "... [S]ome of the systems we find trivial might be considered pretty hot stuff by the two-man cipher bureau of some third-rate country. And as is well known, if you can't hear what the big boys are saying, listen to the chat in the little boy's restroom. It is no big secret that we can perhaps find out what the Kremlin is thinking by reading the account of an interview obtained by the ambassador of some minor (but to-be-cultivated) protectorate...."

--- Frank W. Lewis

Speech, American Cryptogram Association, 988

A cryptanalyst against Japanese Army cryptosystems in World War II, Frank Lewis was an important figure in exploiting the VENONA messages after the war. His speech was reprinted in an NSA technical journal.